



Vol. 47, No. 19 • 374th Airlift Wing • Yokota Air Base, Japan • Friday, May 26, 2006

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Something to dance about



photos by Val Gempis



Above, Ivey White dances to "Beauty and the Beast" with the Yokota Dance Troupe during its annual spring recital at the Fussa Civic Center Saturday. Left, Deb Yulle leads as the group's children prepare for "The Lion King."

Medical Airmen set sail aboard USS Mercy humanitarian mission

By Staff Sgt. Karen J. Tomasik
 374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

Three Airmen from the 374th Medical Group here are deployed to the U.S. Navy hospital ship, USS Mercy, as it tours Southeast Asia on a humanitarian mission.

The proactive mission is an opportunity for a U.S. medical team consisting of medical professionals from the Air Force, Army and Navy to work with members of the U.S. Public Health Service and nongovernmental organizations.

The Airmen joined the Mercy crew in the Philippines and will get the opportunity for hands-on training in the field to include performing diagnostics and surveys of diseases in the area, analyzing industrial hygiene, conducting seminars in field sanitation, food safety and general health for the host-nation military and community health workers, and reviewing and recommending vector control programs with emphasis on malaria and dengue control.

"We are joining up with the USS Mercy in the Philippines and will work with the medical team for about three months," said Capt. Shane Sims, Public Health deputy flight commander. "This is a really unique opportunity for us in the public health field because we don't often get to deploy on humanitarian missions like this."

As they travel throughout the Philippines, Indonesia, Bangladesh and East Timor, one area of the team's focus will be on health education.

"We'll be looking at the processes in place and offering recommendations for improvement in areas that will benefit the health of the local population," said Capt. Sims.

The mission offers Yokota's Airmen more than just

a chance to put medical skills to work in a deployed environment.

"My wife and I are both looking forward to this opportunity," said the captain. "I'll get the chance to practice the 'bread and butter' of my profession and my wife gets the time to visit family in Korea with our six-month-old daughter Nari."

Physical health journeyman, Senior Airman Natasha Dansby, also spoke with her mother about her deployment on board the Navy ship and said her mother was happy to know she too was deploying on a humanitarian mission.

"My mom is happy that I have to chance to help people in other countries directly," said Airman Dansby. "I'm excited to work with the other branches of service, see more of the world and experience a totally different environment than I grew up in as a child in Newport News, Va. I also know this is a unique opportunity that doesn't happen often for my career field – especially for new Airmen."

Public health isn't the only career field represented by the 374th MDG Airmen though, the most junior member of the Yokota team will bring careful organization skills to the mission as a health service management technician.

For Blanca Gama, a tour with the Navy brings a certain amount of the unexpected to the airman first class from Fresno, Calif.

"I don't know what to expect," said Airman Gama. "I know it will be different than what I've gotten used to for the past two years here, but I look forward to experiencing new things and seeing new places."

New Air Force service dress prototypes pique interest

WASHINGTON (AFPN) – Based on feedback received during visits with Airmen across the Air Force, the Air Force Uniform Board is reviewing several concepts that Airmen have suggested regarding the appearance of the service dress uniform.

Some of the informal feedback about the current service dress includes Airmen wanting to revamp the service dress to look more military, like the other services. One senior airman said, "the current uniform resembles a cheesy business suit." A staff sergeant said, "think world's most dominating air power, not CEO," and another described it as a "cheap leisure suit."

Other comments have suggested that the uniform needs to reflect the Air Force's history more. On an Internet message board an Airman recently wrote, "I want to look good and be proud of my AF heritage." Another Airman wrote that the dress uniform pales in comparison to any of the other services. "We need something that distinguishes us as proud members of the U.S. military."

The Air Force began exploring these ideas by producing several prototypes that

reflect a combination of ideas that have been gleaned from comments, suggestions and informal surveys conducted over the past several years.

A more formal survey soon will provide additional opportunities for Airmen to provide feedback and comments.

"We've been getting informal feedback on our current service dress uniform for several years, and what we consistently have heard from many Airmen is a desire for a more 'military,' and less 'corporate' look and feel, something more reflective of the Air Force's heritage, and its role as a professional military organization," said Brig. Gen. Robert Allardice, director of Airman development and sustainment, deputy chief of staff for manpower and personnel.

"The Uniform Board has come up with some options to explore these concepts and the initial prototypes are direct descendants of our heritage, rooted in Hap Arnold and Billy Mitchell's Air Force," General Allardice said.

The survey will provide a more formal opportunity to collect feedback on

whether or not Airmen want a new service dress, and if so, what changes, likes, or dislikes they have about the prototypes.

"We believe we need to respond to the force and the constant flow of feedback we receive on the service dress is driving this initiative. We see this as an opportunity to do so, along with a chance to reflect on our rich history, as well as the image we wish to portray in uniform," said General Allardice. "We want to make sure our uniforms, all combinations, meet our current and future needs."

This process will use the standard Air Force Uniform Board process and as with the Airman's Battle Uniform, Airmen are encouraged to take the opportunity to directly contribute to how their new service uniform might look.

The Air Force will present options based on feedback received on possible service dress designs through the uniform board process.

For more photos of the uniform prototypes, go to www.af.mil/news/story.asp?storyID=123020472.



photo by Master Sgt. Jim Varhegyi

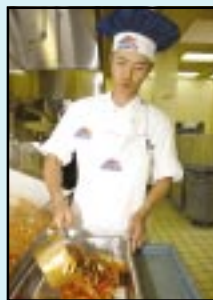
Brig. Gen. Robert Allardice and Senior Master Sgt. Dana Athnos model prototypes of the Billy Mitchell heritage coat in the Pentagon earlier this month. The general is the director of Airmen development and sustainment, and Sergeant Athnos is a member of the Air Force Uniform Board.



photos by Airman 1st Class John Albea

A behind-the-scenes look

Left, Staff Sgt. Lashawndra Bills, 374th Services Division, prepares mashed potatoes for the Samurai Cafe's evening meal. Below, Sergeant Bills discusses dish assignments with Airman Athena Hull for evening meal. Airman Hull also is assigned to the 374th SVS. Right, Samurai Cafe senior civilian chef Tomohiro Ishibashi serves up peppered steak as for an evening entree.



Airmen, families come first in new program that helps deployers in-process, readjust

By Senior Airman Katie Thomas
Editor

Homecomings are considered a happy occasion, especially for military members, but they may also bring difficulties.

Pacific Air Forces leaders want to ensure Airmen and their families know the services and support available to them as they cope with the continuous Air Force deployment cycles.

"People often think that leaving is the hard part of a deployment," said Tech. Sgt. Cesa Sullivan, noncommissioned officer in charge of family readiness at the Airmen Family Readiness Center (formerly known as the Family Support Center). "We consistently find it is returning that is the hard part for Airmen and their families."

One reason for this, said Sergeant Sullivan, is Airmen know they are going to a specific location to do a specific task during a deployment. Airmen return to a home life and work environment that may have significantly changed throughout their absence. This can cause stress and difficulties readjusting to home-station life.

The base has responded to these needs by creating the R3 program, which stands for return, reunion and reintegration. This program aims to in-process deployed Airmen as soon as possible after they return and educate them and their families about the road that lies ahead.

"Problems usually do not show up until four to five weeks after an Airman returns," said Sergeant Sullivan. "Couples



photo by Senior Airman Katie Thomas

Medical Airmen draw blood from Airmen returning from deployments Monday during a mass in-processing.

go through a honeymoon phase during that time, then the first fight happens."

She explained that the emotional and physical stresses Airmen and families feel because of deployments is normal, but problems must be addressed and solved before they lead to other problems like physical or emotional abuse.

"It is very important for husbands and wives to spend time alone together after a deployment," said Sergeant Sullivan. "They need to get to know each other again by having heart-to-heart time. With children around, that is almost impossible because the focus is mostly on the children. Before families go on an outing together, the parents should spend time alone with one another."

Sixteen hours of free child care is available through Family Services to Airmen who have recently returned from deployment.

Also, a "Honey, I'm Home!" reunification conference is offered free of charge June 16 to 18 at Tama Hills Recreation Area. Helping agency professionals will offer tips and insight into reunifying a family after a deployment. Topics include communication skills.

Additionally, the R3 program offers practical advice about finances and legal matters.

Community members can contact helping agencies including the Airmen Family Readiness Center, Family Advocacy, Life Skills or the base chapel to seek help with deployment-related issues.

For more information about these programs, call 225-8725.

Police Week celebrated

By Senior Airman Katie Thomas
Editor

Last week, Americans around the world celebrated its police officers; Yokota Air Base celebrated its 374th Security Forces Squadron.

The squadron works alongside Japanese civilian guards to defend the base, to secure its resources and people, as well as enforce the law.

"Everyday the men and women of the 374th SFS conduct activities that make it extremely difficult for criminals and terrorists to accomplish plans that would impact the mission here," said Capt. Mel Turner, 374th SFS.

Unlike the squadron's civilian counterparts, law enforcement is not the primary mission of SFS Airmen.

"We spend the majority of the time training for and accomplishing deployments in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom," explained Captain Turner.

As a result, the partnership with Japanese civilian guards is a crucial part of successfully fulfilling their defense and security duties.

"The guards' execution of excellence day-in and day-out allows the community to have confidence in the base's security while SFS Airmen continue to fulfill deployments," he said.

He added that working with the guards is an invaluable and daily cultural exchange helping SFS Airmen and community members alike learn about the Japanese language and culture.

The squadron also relies on community members' active concern for reporting suspicious or illegal activities to help keep the entire base safe.

To report suspicious activities, call the Law Enforcement Desk at 225-7200 or 225-7227. Dial 911 in cases of emergency.



photo by Airman 1st Class John Albea

An Yokota family has their child finger-printed during the annual National Police Week celebration Saturday in the YCC lobby area.

Nihon-go now

⇒ **I have to use the restroom.**

Otearai e ikitai desu.

(oh-teh-ah-lah-e eh ee-kee-tah-ee dess.)

⇒ **Where is the restroom?**

Otearai wa doko desuka.

(oh-teh-ah-lah-e wah doh-koh dess kah.)

AD

Passenger terminal grants early check-in, aims to ease travel

Customers on funded orders can now report to service counter one day prior beginning at 5 p.m.

By Senior Airman Katie Thomas
Editor

Looking out onto a sea of passengers waiting to check in at the Yokota Passenger Terminal, the 730th Air Mobility Squadron's leadership knew there had to be a better way to serve their customers.

Duty passengers taking the Patriot Express can check in the day prior to their flight beginning at 5 p.m.

"The long lines on Patriot days are due to Yokosuka, Atsugi and Zama buses dropping their passengers off all at once," said 1st Lt. Sean Setter, Officer In Charge of Passenger and Fleet Services. "However those who take advantage of early check-in can avoid the lines."

Duty passengers include people who are on funded orders. Passengers must bring baggage, copies of their orders,

passports and visa (if required) and military identification cards to the passenger terminals' check-in counter.

Pets may be checked in early, however the terminal won't keep pets overnight. Passengers will receive a ticket recognizing their pet has been checked, but must return the next day with their pet.

"One drawback to early check-in is having to get your checked bags back when a flight is delayed," said 2nd Lt. Sarah McDaniel, Passenger Service Operations

Officer. "When a flight is delayed, passengers may want to get something out of their checked baggage which means they must recheck that baggage."

Space-Available procedures will not change with the start of early check-in. Space-Available passengers must be present for roll calls and have all applicable documentation and identification.

For more information, call the passenger terminal's service counter at 225-5661.



Active-duty Airmen can now update their duty history online

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN) – Airmen will be responsible for reviewing their duty history and requesting changes, additions or deletions online through the virtual Military Personnel Flight beginning May 30.

Airmen can enter the vMPF by logging onto the Air Force Personnel Center's secure Web site where they can access their duty history under "Most Popular Applications" or "Self-Service Actions/Personal Data."

Each Airman will be responsible for justifying changes by providing supporting documentation. The following items are some of the source documents that

can be used to support duty history changes:

Air Force Form 707A, Field Grade Officer Performance Report (Maj. thru Col.);

AF Form 707B, Company Grade Officer Performance Report (2nd Lt. thru Capt.);

AF Form 910, Enlisted Performance Report (Airman Basic thru Tech. Sgt.);

AF Form 911, Enlisted Performance Report (Master Sgt. thru Chief Master Sgt.);

AF Form 1098, Special Task Certification and Recurring Training;

AF Form 2096, Classification/On-The-Job Training Action;

National Guard Bureau Form 26, Air National Guard Active-Duty Performance Rating;

Special Orders (P-Series); and General Orders.

Members requesting an action related to duty history can log on to the Personal Services Delivery Transformation Web site and click on 'duty history' at <http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/psd>.

Check the related link for a tutorial on updating your duty history online. This tutorial provides a step-by-step process for applying online and avenues for finding source documents.

(Courtesy Air Force Personnel Center News Service)

AD

Memorial Day: A Heritage of Service

By Gen. Paul V. Hester
Pacific Air Forces commander

Since 1868, Americans have paused the last Monday in May each year to remember the men and women who have answered the call of service and have given the ultimate sacrifice to defend our Nation and our way of life.

This year I'm privileged to join the millions of Americans in honoring the heroic men and women of our past ...

as well as our present. Our history is filled with brave citizens who, when called upon, rose to meet incredible challenges to secure liberty for billions of people around the world. That remarkable spirit of sacrifice continues today as America fights once again to ensure freedom and democracy prevail over extremism and terror.

In PACAF, today's Airmen are following in the footsteps of the generations before them who served in harm's way. From the Far East Air Forces of World War II to our

expeditionary Airmen in Afghanistan and Iraq, Airmen in the Pacific have selflessly defended America far from her shores – many having given their lives to do so.

So on this Memorial Day, a grateful nation remembers those who have fallen for the great pursuit of freedom – their sacrifice lives within each of us. And we salute all of our magnificent men and women who proudly continue their legacy of young heroes keeping America safe.

Chief's Corner

Mixing business and pleasure

By Chief Master Sgt. Linda Ferrell
374th Communications Squadron

The military is not all business – it also a way of life which includes pleasure.

But we must remember the distinction between business and pleasure, which is an old adage and a very clear one we learned early on in life as we began formal schooling.

Since childhood the distinction between work and play was made perfectly clear by our teachers. So how does something so ingrained in us from a young age becomes hazy when we start working is worth pondering. Why are we taught this rule to not mix business and pleasure at such a tender age? The answer is easy and usually learned from experience – when you don't mix work and play correctly, it almost always leads to trouble.

When you joined the military and went through basic training and technical school, work and play always remained two separate animals. The time then came to go out into the real world and get down to the business of working for a living.

For some of us, the divide between work and play blurred. The majority of people kept the lines clear cut, yet the newspaper headlines are full of personnel who did not.

But, what if your lines are little blurry and you are not sure if you have crossed them? Here are some signs you have:

⇒ you sleep in late instead of going to the gym for mandatory physical training;

⇒ instead of going to work at 7:30 a.m. you show up at 9 a.m. so your boss thinks you did go work out;

⇒ you go TDY and flirt with the young Airman in a bar who works for you;

⇒ or the television in your office is tuned to the latest talk show instead of the Commander's Channel.

Stars and Stripes and the *Fuji Flyer* are filling pages more and more with articles of misconduct and unprofessional behavior where troops did not correctly intertwine business with pleasure. For example, the May 4 *Stars and Stripes* read, "Second Army paratrooper pleads guilt in gay porn Web site case," where charges stemmed from an investigation of soldiers who appeared on a military-themed pornographic Web site.

The reality is today's world, be it civilian or military, is about productivity, deadlines and doing more with less. Most of us get a charge and a good feeling when we know we put in a full day's work. For instance, your stack of performance reports and decorations dwindled down to none; your aircraft took off on time after an eight-hour preflight inspection; your network is back up after sweating over the repair of a crashed server.

Finally, when you do something professionally, personally or ethically wrong in the back of your mind you may wonder what would happen if you got caught. Of course you convince yourself you won't, but the newspaper headlines are full of people who thought that way too.

This does not mean your social life has to take a back seat to work. Do your checks and balances and keep work and play periods separate. You will have none of the guilt and a secure career.

'Swivel chair trap' strikes

By Robyn Sleeth
374th Services Division

There's more to being a good leader, supervisor or manager than simply reading and analyzing statistical data, delegating authority, or influencing and directing people.

Gen. George Patton, Jr.

said, "No good decision was ever made in a swivel chair." He believed good leaders lead from the front, getting their facts firsthand and making sound decisions based on

personal experience and face-to-face contact.

He also believed the quality of worker performance and customer relations is directly related to the level of personal involvement leaders practice.

Unfortunately, it has become far too easy for anyone who leads to fall into the swivel chair trap. We are overloaded with a multitude of reports brimming with statistical data intended to give us insight into how well we are doing our jobs. We are constantly receiving qualitative and quantitative information based on such things as surveys and focus groups. We sit back and pore through the mass of statistics and make decisions based on the numbers instead of going to meetings to debate the validity of those numbers, asking our employees for their opinions, or speaking directly to our customers.

There is a positive side of all the statistical data – it often tells us what is wrong, or where our weak areas are.

Knowing what we need to fix is only half the battle. The

negative side of all that data is it can't ever tell us how to fix what is wrong or compensate for our weaknesses. If we sit back in a swivel chair we will always be looking at the past, chasing the latest stats, unable to put together a cohesive plan for the future. We risk becoming so engrossed in what the numbers tell us has already

"Good leaders lead from the front, getting their facts firsthand and making sound decisions based on personal experience and face-to-face contact."

happened that we fail to work with others to look forward to what might be improved and how to improve it, and to make plans for both the short and long term based on that vision.

How do you spot an individual who has fallen victim to the swivel chair trap?

Actually they are fairly obvious: a leader, supervisor or manager who concentrates on last month's statistical data but has no plan for how to improve things for the next month; a leader who is consumed with last month's figures but never visits the front of the operation where the work is actually accomplished; a leader who rarely leaves their office to see whether both the internal and external customers are satisfied. They are the ones defending or making excuses for what happened yesterday without a vision of their mission and how to accomplish it tomorrow.

To avoid the swivel chair trap consider several simple suggestions: "Get out front, listen, have a vision and a plan for the future, find out the facts firsthand and chart a course for success, and don't sit and wait for the results to be posted." Look to the future as a chance for continuous enhancement and progress. There is always room for improvement.



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Publisher

DUI Prevention

May 10 – May 16	0
Total DUIs in May	1
Total in 2006	4

Punishment

.049 or less = car parked for 12 hours
.05-.079 = 6 months walking
.081-.149 = 1 year walking
0.15 or greater = 2 years walking

*Don't
drink and drive.
Call 225-RIDE!*

Airmen expand horizons through education

CCAF commandant, superintendent emphasize education, training during visit

By Staff Sgt. Karen J. Tomasik
374th Airlift Wing Public Affairs

The Community College of the Air Force commandant and superintendent visited here May 16, taking time to speak about the significance of the CCAF graduation here and importance of pursuing higher education.

Commandant of the CCAF, Col. Thomas Kilincar, started by sharing how he feels a bond with Yokota Air Base.

"I am especially excited to be here for the Community College Air Force graduation this year because we're recognizing the accomplishments of the enlisted force," said the colonel. "I have a strong personal tie to the Yokota enlisted force because 50 years ago this month, my dad, then Airman 2nd Class Russell Kilincar, married my mother, Teiko Tagasugi, here in May 1956."

Colonel Kilincar explained how his father had a difficult time finding work right after high school so he joined the Air Force. Airman Kilincar was trained as a machinist and then came to Yokota to work on the F-86s and B-29s, refining his skills.

"My dad only served in the Air Force for one enlistment then moved to our hometown in St. Louis, Mo., where he went right to work for McDonnell-Douglas Aircraft Corporation as a machinist," said Colonel Kilincar. "They gave him a very good career because the skills he acquired in the Air Force were valued by industry."

Although the Air Force aims to retain skilled Airmen, the colonel explained that commercial industry wants them to join their companies because the skills, knowledge, training and education Airmen receive is considered world-class.

"It is different now than it was for my dad – we didn't have the CCAF back in 1956. It wasn't until 1972 that the college was created," said the colonel. "Today you need that piece of paper, that diploma, to get through the door and get your skills recognized. CCAF fulfills a very important role in the professional development of our Airmen and I think anyone who doesn't pursue a CCAF degree is doing themselves a disservice."

The CCAF superintendent, Chief Master Sgt. Andy Null also traveled here for the ceremony and discussed how the Air Force prepares Airmen for military service and sets the stage for further education.

"The Air Force will ensure Airmen are technically trained through their career fields and get a professional military education," said the chief. "However, as far as civilian education – the responsibility is on the individual to take the steps available to them."

"It has been proven by the Carnegie Foundation and through Air Force research and demographic surveys that Airmen are not just pursuing an education for themselves but doing it for future generations."

The chief also explained that Airmen who have a higher education are being promoted sooner than those who don't.

"Hopefully this is a beacon for folks who don't have their degrees. This is what our senior leaders are looking for in the Air Force," said Chief Null. "It's not a requirement – but we are looking for that whole person – that person that has mastered their technical skills, mastered their professional military education and stepped outside of their technical world to become educated in a civilian organization."

Chief Null explained that only 64 credit hours are required to earn a CCAF degree, so even Airmen who have been in the service a while should still pursue a degree.

"Most of our career fields complete 75 percent of those 64 semester hours by the time an Airman has completed Airman Leadership School," said the chief. "They will only need to earn about five general education courses and that is phenomenal."

The chief also explained that a CCAF degree is still relevant for an Airman entering the service with a bachelor's or master's degree because it gives the Airman a degree in their technical discipline. In addition to associate in applied science degrees, the CCAF offers Airmen the chance to expand technical skills through certification and licensure programs and according to the colonel, licensure is an important and very dynamic area that colleges are moving toward.

"Many people need occupational certification to progress in the military and the civilian sector. For example, maintenance people need the Airframe and Powerplant certification, paralegals need certification through the American Bar Association and paramedics need certification to succeed outside the force," said the colonel. "We are going to start offering those testing opportunities through the CCAF, saving our Airmen a lot of money and time."

A CCAF degree pared with those occupational certifications and licensure is what's going to get an individual forward once they decide to separate, said the chief. "Those two items together are respected – a degree says they've been educated, certifications and licensures say they've experienced it."

The education service center is the first stop for Airmen looking to earn their CCAF degree. For more information or to sign up for a course or test, call 225-7337.



photo by Staff Sgt. Karen J. Tomasik



courtesy photo



photo by Staff Sgt. Karen J. Tomasik

Above, families and friends congratulate Airmen receiving Community College of the Air Force degrees. Left, Colonel Thomas Kilincar, CCAF commandant, speaks at the commencement ceremony May 16 at the Yokota Enlisted Club. Lower left, Airman 2nd Class Russell Kilincar and his wife, Teiko Tagasugi at Yokota Air Base in the 1950s.

114 earn CCAF degrees in 35 specialties

Aerospace Ground Equipment Technology:

Staff Sgt. Nathan Bloodworth, Master Sgt. Michael Herron, Airman 1st Class Elizabeth Moso; **Aircrew Life Support:** Master Sgt. Banetta McDaniels; Airway Science: Staff Sgt. Brian Bowen, Staff Sgt. Carmen Jones; **Air & Space Operations Technology:** Master Sgt. Adrian Rhoda; Allied Health Sciences: Master Sgt. Janet Lightburn, Staff Sgt. Kristine Mayfield, Staff Sgt. Takesha Terry

Aviation Maintenance Technology:

Master Sgt. (ret.) Frank Barker, Staff Sgt. Todd Bynon, Senior Airman Kevin Durand, Senior Airman Eric Fuller, Master Sgt. Vance Hawley, Staff Sgt. James McDonald, Staff Sgt. Steven Poole, Staff Sgt. Daniel Roman, Staff Sgt. Elijah Tatman, Tech. Sgt. David Taynton, Staff Sgt. Giancarlo Vasquez; **Aviation Operations:** Tech. Sgt. Eric Gaul, Staff Sgt. Samuel Vanderbogart; **Avionic Systems Technology:** Staff Sgt. Robert Brown, Staff Sgt. Roger Clark, Staff Sgt. Daniel Hansen, Tech. Sgt. Stephen Johnson

Bioenvironmental Engineering Technology:

Senior Airmen Toinette McGrew; **Biomedical Equipment Technology:** Staff Sgt. Sergio Chinchilla

Communications Applications Technology:

Staff Sgt. Elnora Overton; Criminal Justice: Master Sgt. William Dunlap, Master Sgt. James Edge, Master Sgt. Randy English, Tech. Sgt. Tyandra Holmes, Staff Sgt. Timothy Price, Tech. Sgt. Anthony Riley

Dental Assisting:

Staff Sgt. Andrew Berry, Staff Sgt. Kathleen Hammerer; **Dietetics and Nutrition:** Tech. Sgt. Nicole Parker; **Disaster Preparedness:** Senior Airman Julia Hall, Senior Airman Heather Hildrich

Electronic Systems Technology:

Airman 1st Class Kevin Brieck, Tech. Sgt. Demond Chatman, Senior Airman Brandon Hill, Tech. Sgt. David Holmes, Senior Airman Benjamin McKenna, Staff Sgt. David Popovich, Tech. Sgt. Carlin Ralph

Financial Management:

Tech. Sgt. Larry Bakel, Master Sgt. Stacey Cole, Master Sgt. Robert Dixon, Master Sgt. Jodi Dupree, Staff Sgt. Meredith Huffman, Tech. Sgt. Michael Johnson

Human Resource Management:

Master Sgt. (ret.) Frank Barker, Staff Sgt. Stephanie Glover, Master Sgt. Ruth Hutchinson, Tech. Sgt. Nicole Parker, Senior Master Sgt. Lionel Wise

Information Management:

Staff Sgt. Tasha Campbell-Brown, Staff Sgt. Douglas Chilson, Master Sgt. James Dwyer, Tech. Sgt. Joseph Goldsmith, Master Sgt. Teonilo Mercader, Tech. Sgt. John Smith, Staff Sgt. Michael Vasquez

Information Systems Technology:

Senior Airman Jamar Black, Senior Airman Adam Bloomfield, Staff Sgt. Eric Cullen, Staff Sgt. Charles Grant, Senior Airman Amber Hough, Staff Sgt. Anthony Hoxie, Tech. Sgt. Joseph Juarez, Staff Sgt. Lakeisha Marks, Staff Sgt. Justin Phillips, Staff Sgt. Reshard Sharp, Staff Sgt. Rolan Tuazon, Staff Sgt. Michael Vasquez, Staff Sgt. Charles Williams

Logistics:

Senior Airman Christopher Colgan, Tech. Sgt. Joey Johnson, Master Sgt. Pamela Mahoney, Master Sgt. Frederick Roberts, Senior Airman Lashanna Saterfield, Tech. Sgt. John Smith, Special Agent Aaron Smoot, Staff Sgt. Alvin Weir

Maintenance Production Management:

Master Sgt. Greg Burroughs; **Mechanical and Electrical Technology:** Senior Airman Christopher Crousser, Staff Sgt. Eric Schmidt, Tech. Sgt. Zachariah Walker, Tech. Sgt. Todd Willis; **Medical Laboratory Technology:** Senior Airman Corey Fields, Tech. Sgt. Phillip Monk; **Mental Health Services:** Staff Sgt. Paola Chinchilla

Paralegal:

Staff Sgt. Maria Franz, Senior Master Sgt. Michelle Mooney; **Pharmacy Technology:** Tech. Sgt. Adrian Crumrine; **Public Affairs:** Master Sgt. Dominique Brown, Staff Sgt. Joseph Derr

Radiologic Technology:

Master Sgt. Thomas Petterson, Staff Sgt. Wences Savaiki; **Restaurant, Hotel & Fitness Management:** Senior Airman Jessica Peris, Staff Sgt. Jennifer Rose, Staff Sgt. Angela Schmidt, Master Sgt. Spencer Willis; **Scientific Analysis Technology:** Master Sgt. Vance Hawley

Technical and Military Science Instruction:

Staff Sgt. Byron Stanislav; **Transportation:** Master Sgt. Timothy Byrnes, Staff Sgt. Christopher Cohen, Tech. Sgt. Tony Destin, Senior Airman Donnie Frazier, Staff Sgt. Marcus Neal, Master Sgt. Charles Roberts, Master Sgt. Richard Woody

Vehicle Maintenance:

Master Sgt. Donald Hodges; **Weather Technology:** Senior Airman Kelli Pumpfrey, Senior Airman Jason Snyder

Off base

Seibu Train Festa 2006: The Musashigaoka Sharyo Kenshu-jo, or train vehicle maintenance factory, is opening its doors for people to see and experience their trains, vehicles and facilities June 4 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. It is a 12-minute walk from the Seibu Ikebukuro Line's Ko-rai station.

Tokyo Summerland: It is International Weekend at Tokyo Summerland June 24. Admission to the indoor and outdoor pool is free, and one ticket will admit up to three people. Five hundred tickets are available at the Yujo Recreation Center.

Soccer celebration: J-League player Miyamoto is producing the celebration at the Marunouchi Building near Tokyo Station. It features a café and historical soccer items. It will be on display until July 9.

On base

Movies

Today – *Over the Hedge*, PG, 7 p.m.; *Poseidon*, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday – *Over the Hedge*, PG, 2 p.m.; *Inside Man*, R, 7 p.m.; *Poseidon*, PG-13, 9:30 p.m. (adults only)

Sunday – *Over the Hedge*, PG, 2 p.m.

Monday – *Poseidon*, PG-13, 7 p.m.

Tuesday – *Larry the Cable Guy*, PG-13, 7 p.m.

Wednesday – *Over the Hedge*, PG-13, 7 p.m.

Thursday – *Stay Alive*, PG-13, 7 p.m.

All movies and showtimes are subject to change without notice. Call 225-8708.

Live entertainment

The Enlisted Club is hosting Image Records May 27 beginning at 9 p.m. Hit R&B music will be performed. The show is free for club members. Call 227-8820.

Furniture sale

The Enlisted Club is hosting a furniture sale Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tax center change

The base tax center hours are reduced as the tax season winds down. New hours are Monday and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. People filing 1040EZ forms can use the walk-in hours, Mondays and Tuesdays from 9 to 11 a.m. Visit Tower 3002 or call 225-4926.

Pre-deployment help

The Family Support Center hosts pre-deployment briefings for military members and their spouses every Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m. Call 225-8725.

Baccalaureate

The base chapel is hosting a baccalaureate service for the graduating senior class June 3 at 3 p.m. Students, families and friends are encouraged to attend. Call 227-9613.

Arts and crafts

The base arts and crafts center offers classes including photography, ceramics, jewelry-making, Japanese paper folding, painting, and basket weaving. The center also offers a recently renovated and expanded store with arts and crafts supplies. Call 225-9044.

Tanabata Dancers*

Community members are invited to learn easy traditional Japanese dances and how to wear a summer kimono. Practices are Fridays in Tower 2085 activity room, near the Enlisted Club. E-mail tanabata_dancers@hotmail.com.

VBS

The base chapel is hosting Vacation Bible School (VBS) June 19 to 23 from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration begins Thursday. Children who have completed kindergarten up through the fifth grade may attend. Call 225-3253 or 225-3347.

Neighborhood watch

The 374th Security Forces Squadron is seeking residents interested in helping with the neighborhood watch program. Call 225-7244.

Bible studies

Protestant Women of the Chapel host Bible studies at the Traditional Chapel Thursdays beginning at 9 a.m., and at the base library Mondays beginning at 6:30 p.m. Call 225-7009.

Dorm managers

The base housing flight is accepting applications from staff to master sergeants to fill dormitory manager positions. Call 225-8045.

Scholarship

The Filipino American Association* is offering an essay-writing scholarship to all college-bound seniors at Yokota High School who are graduating this year. Visit <http://home.attmil.ne.jp/b/fil-am/index.html>.

Job seminar

The Family Support Center is hosting a seminar about searching for local and federal jobs Wednesday from 9 to 11 a.m. Call 225-8725.

Yokota ITT

The Yokota Information, Tickets and Travel office is offering packages to destinations including Kamakura, Mt. Fuji, Nikko and Matsumoto Castle. Call 227-7083 or visit the Yujo Recreation Center.

Chapel Schedule

Traditional (West) Chapel
Catholic: Mass, Sundays at 9:15 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Protestant: Traditional service, Sundays at 11 a.m.; Liturgical service Sundays at 12:30 p.m.; Seventh Day Adventists, Saturdays at 9 a.m.

Contemporary (East) Chapel
Protestant: Gospel service, Sundays at 11 a.m.; Korean Service, Sundays at 2 p.m.; Contemporary service, Sundays at 5 p.m.

PO disclaimer

An asterisk (*) denotes a private organization. Private organizations are not a part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and have no governmental status.



Tech. Sgt. Shannon Wilkins

Samurai Warrior



of the Week

Tech. Sgt. Shannon Wilkins, 374th Maintenance Operations Squadron, is this week's Samurai Warrior of the Week for exhibiting the Bushido qualities of sympathy toward all people, and courage.

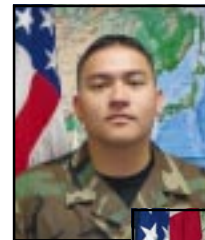
She is the noncommissioned officer in charge of development training for the maintenance training flight. Her ingenuity and resourcefulness ensured 640 Airmen obtained the required qualifications for the Global War On Terror. Sergeant Wilkins also developed four aircraft maintenance qualification courses resulting in 100 percent maintainers trained.

She worked for Headquarters Pacific Air Forces and base-level functional area managers to identify more than 320 future training requirements.

Kensei Warriors



of the Week



<-- Staff Sgt. Dwight Cruz



--> Staff Sgt. Luis Oquendo

Staff Sgts. Dwight Cruz and Luis Oquendo, 730th Air Mobility Squadron, are this week's Kensei Warriors of the Week for exhibiting the Essential Attitudes of courage and self-control.

Recently, Sergeants Cruz and Oquendo were assigned to recover a KC-10 aircraft. After the two had assisted in the aircraft refueling, the assigned flying crew chiefs had begun a post-flight inspection. During the exterior lights check, the left wing-tip formation light assembly had caught on fire. The crew chief on the ground informed the other crew chief to turn off power; Sergeant Oquendo immediately notified the Maintenance Control Center of the ground emergency; Sergeant Cruz began to engage in extinguishing the fire. With the help of the crew chiefs, Sergeant Cruz successfully put out the fire with minimal damage to the aircraft.

AD

“Quotes” & Things

“Oh, what’s the matter with you now?”

Yogi Berra,
to his wife after
she saw *Dr. Zhivago*

Outdoor pool: The base’s outdoor pool is open throughout the summer from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. Call 225-7246.

Scuba Lessons: The next open water certification class is June 3-4 at the Natatorium for basic skills, and continues June 17-18 at Izu Peninsula for open water practical application. The cost is \$280 plus trip expense. Call the Finatics Dive Club at 227-2545.

Indoor cycling: These classes are held at the Natatorium Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 5 a.m.; Tuesday and Thursday at 5:30 p.m.; and Saturday at 9 a.m.

Fit Mom: Pregnant mothers are invited to exercise in the pool at the Natatorium Saturday from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. through a special program offered through the Health And Wellness Center.

Outdoor Rec: The Outdoor Recreation Center is offering the following trips: whitewater rafting in Minakami, Gunma prefecture June 3; wakeboarding at Lake Yamanaka June 10. Call 225-4552 for additional trips or to sign up.

Mental Health Month: May is recognized as Mental Health Month each year. People can keep mentally fit by eating a healthy diet, exercising, getting good sleep, being socially and spiritually active. Contact a primary care manager at the base hospital for more information.

Panthers compete in Far East tournament

YHS team topped by rivals Kadena, Kubasaki, CAJ, but anticipate strong shot at making 2007’s top three

By Senior Airman Katie Thomas
Editor

The Yokota High School Panthers soccer team had a strong showing this year.

The 15-player team pulled fourth in the annual Department of Defense Dependents Schools’ Far East soccer tournament for the second straight year last week, defending themselves against nine other competing teams across the Pacific.

Competition was rough this year but the weather offered a helping hand, said tournament director and Panthers coach Tim Pujol.

“The muddy field conditions definitely worked to the advantage of all the teams this year,” he said. “It evened out the playing field for the teams, giving everyone a better chance out there.”

The Kadena High School won it all, shutting out every team they played against in the championship bracket. Aaron Zendejas, midfielder and forward, was named the tournament’s Most Valuable Player. Taking honorable mention were seniors Nathan LaGrave, forward, and Ted Awana, goalkeeper.

Coming in second was Kubasaki High School from Camp Foster, Okinawa. Christian Academy in Japan, an international school in Tokyo, took third.

Kubasaki High School senior Chris Monroy took home the Golden Boot Award for the most goals scored in the tournament.

Monroy put away 14 goals this year to win.

Yokota’s top players were senior midfielder Bronson Bailey, junior midfielder Stefan Welch and senior goal keep Jim Scott. These players, along with the 13 top players from among the other teams in the tournament, played against a Tokyo university soccer team on the tournament’s final day.

“The all-tournament team game against the Tokyo university team really lightened up the week for the players,” said Coach Pujol. “It really built camaraderie among the different schools and it was fun.”

This game was a first in tournament history, as was a skills competition featuring punting, dribbling, shooting and throwing.

Tournament surprises included Guam High School winning one game and tying another after failing to win a single game in the annual tournament for two years running. Camp Zama High School is also of note, coming out of pool play with no wins, but going on to win their first two games in the consolation bracket.

Whether or not the 2007 tournament brings rainy skies with it, the Yokota Panthers are counting on a reasonable shot at being in the championship game.

“Five of our 15 players are graduating this year, leaving 10 of our experienced players for next year,” said Coach Pujol. “This definitely puts us right in there for making the top three and being in the championship game.”



photo by Airman 1st Class Laszlo Babocsi

Kinnick High School midfielder Jonathon Evans escapes Zama High School’s offense May 19 during the annual Department of Defense Dependents Schools’ Far East soccer tournament hosted here last week.

With all that said, the coach explained the tournament would not have been possible if not for the support it had.

“Yokota has been very gracious in hosting the tournament three of the seven years it has been around,” Coach Pujol said. “They provided east side temporary living facilities (TLF) for the teams along with transportation all around base and food for the players. Things can get kind of hairy when you have 170 teenagers running around the base, and without the base’s support, there is no way there could have been a tournament.”

Kadena will host the 2007 DoDDS Far East soccer tournament.

For more details, visit <http://www.yokota-hs.pac.dodea.edu/FESoccer/FESoccer.htm>.



photos by Airman 1st Class Laszlo Babocsi

Fit to have fun



Left, children and parents warm up for the annual America’s Kids Run Saturday held near Snyder Field on the west side of base. Below, Camden Meyers (left) races Chris Hall during the run. Left, Tech. Sgt. Herbert Jackson and his daughter Alexis cool down after the two-mile run.

AD